

Cleveland O. Feb. 18 - '66

My dear friend

As you forgot that we were not in eastern Pa. this winter and therefore directed your last to Phil: instead of Salem, Columbiana Co. O. it did not reach me till three days since and I use my earliest moment to answer it — I am glad the Com. are fit to help J. Elizabeth serve the cause by the aid of \$100.00 — She ^{had not heart} ~~could not heart~~ can be free now for this service — When the Bazaar was started I thought the West would not be able to sustain it — I am happily disappointed — The West will not only sustain it, but all its lecturers except those of the American Society — You ask me what is the probability of this mission — Stephen is about to send his acct. to Wendell. Up to the first Jan. it is somewhere from \$350.00 to \$375.00 — We think to raise his salary in this State from the first Jan. — How large a Bill B. F. Jones has I do not know — I presume not more than \$150.00 — You speak of the \$50.00 you collected last summer for the Western mission and that it will probably be sent to me — Please appropriate it to pay the salaries — I don't look out for rainy days — My husband does that because he feels it his duty — I do not now, as hitherto my life belongs to the cause — When I shall be compelled, by circumstances, to take a salary I will frankly say so, because I think it right to do so, when it is absolutely necessary. — If the Society has not sent the money to J. Elizabeth we should be glad to pay her some of our receipts on checks and have the Society answer our order for the Office — Or if they decide to send any thing, more or less, to B. F. J. we ^{will} pay him and so save discount both ways if you will send

him an order on Stephen — I will ask James for his acct. and send
it to Wendell soon —

If the Society has not the ability to pay Stephen's salary this
summer they need give themselves no uneasiness about it, as we
can get along without it — They had better pay Jones than him —
Jones is going to housekeeping and we are not for the present — Perhaps
not under a year — Feb. 27 —

You speak of our plan to run up the subscription list of the
Standard — I have not forgotten how strongly I urged you and how
to take charge of our national banner and how I promised to assist
you in it like any slave — You have complied with my earnest
wishes and the paper is just what I have prayed it might be
and I feel exhausted and have not unfrequently repeated myself
that I have done so little for it — But the first summer effort
it went into your hands I was ^{in my efforts} hedged up by Rogers and Co.
The next winter I did what I could — And this year, coming
to Ohio, I found we could not fight the battle on this
ground without a paper ~~like~~ ^{where} our main strength has
been expended on the Bugle — Heaven helping me I will do
what I can for the Standard another year — I consider it a
strong paper of the cause — The Lib. being free discussion of every
thing cannot answer the purpose of a Society's paper — I
wrote you last fall that my health was not good — That my
friends were alarmed on account of some weaknesses — It
is much better this winter — It may be that warm weather will
conquer me again — If it should I must rest through the
summer — Should it not, if you will be at the Anniversary
in New York, we may, perhaps, think it best to make an
effort there after the N. E. Convention. I deem it important for

Your judgement is that we might have been more useful in
N.Y. City this season — At least I infer this from a remark
I trust you will see that our work here has been more
effective than any thing we have before done — We think
this is to the west what Mass. is to N.E. ^{in point of influence} and we trust
our labors here have given her a Mass. Character or at least
have laid the foundation for such a character — — One item
Betsey Cowles "the" says "Giddings" is the greatest woman on
the Reserve" is with us — She is the daughter of a Presby-
terian Minister, brought up in the hot-bed of Trinitarianism, yet
no bigot — Educated at Oberlin, and now Principal of the
Grand River Institute, yet with a soul as free and as broad
as Comprehension as the Universe — She intends attending the
Ann. Meet. in N.Y. and the N.E. Convention — She speaks to
excellent effect in public meetings and is now forming societies
all over the western section of the Reserve, using all her
 spare moments for this purpose — We hope she will leave
the Institute and devote herself to lecturing — She has read the
Liberator for a few months and is an ardent admirer of
Garrison and is puffed that she has been so long in the
work touching our eastern movements — No woman on the
Reserve has half her influence — I think several of our
Ohio friends will attend the Anniversaries at N.Y. and Bos-
ton — — — (God bless you for your untiring efforts to
make the Fair what it has come to be — and give
you to feel it your duty to be at N.Y. —
Stephen joins me in affectionate regards —

As ever Abby Kelly Foster —

Maria W. Chapman

Boston

Mass.

1846

Atty Kelly Fort